

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 OMB-01 AID-20

IGA-02 SAB-01 SAM-01 NIC-01 NASA-04 SCI-06 CU-05

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 DRC-01 /119 W

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O 121430Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8610

INFO SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FOR ISA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SA, MARR, US

SUBJECT: DEPUTY MODA COMMENTS ON SECURITY COMMISSION MEETING,
AND HIS TRAVEL TO U.S.

43*: (A) JIDDA 4569; (B) JIDDA 4709

SUMMARY: DEPUTY MODA PRINCE TURKI HOPES THAT SURVEY OF SAUDI
ARMED FORCES COULD BE PROVIDED ASAP. HE ASKS, ALSO, THAT US-
SAUDI JOINT SECURITY COMMISSION COMMENCE ITS MEETINGS THE END
OF OCTOBER OR EARLY NOVEMBER BECAUSE HE IS THEREAFTER COMMITTED
TO A SERIES OF FOREIGN VISITS. PRINCE MIGHT VISIT
THE US FOR THE FIRST TIME IN LATE NOVEMBER, AND EMBASSY THINKS IT
MIGHT BE USEFUL IF WE COULD SOON GIVE HIM SOME ROUGH IDEAS FOR HIS
PROGRAM. END SUMMARY.

1. DEPUTY MODA, PRINCE TURKI BIN ABD AL-AZIZ TOLD DEPUTY
ASSISTANT SECRETARY SOBER TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, THAT HE HOPED
US SURVEY OF MODA COULD BE SENT TO HIM ASAP. SAUDI SIDE
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WANTED AT LEAST TWO WEEKS TO REVIEW THE STUDY IN ADVANCE

OF JOINT SECURITY COMMISSION'S MEETINGS. MR. SOBER REPLIED STUDY WAS IN ITS FINAL STAGES AND SHOULD CERTAINLY BE PRESENTED TO MODA WITH TIME TO SPARE. SOBER TOLD PRINCE HE WOULD HIMSELF PROBABLY BE RETURNING TO SAUDI ARABIA AS THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S REPRESENTATIVE ON SECURITY COMMISSION. PRINCE SAID HE LOOKED FORWARD TO SEEING MR. SOBER AGAIN.

2. PRINCE TURKI THEN ASKED ABOUT PROPOSED DATES FOR COMMISSION MEETING. WHEN MR SOBER SAID US SIDE HAD BEEN CONSIDERING A DATE IN VICINITY OF NOVEMBER 10, PRINCE THOUGHT THIS MIGHT BE SOMEWHAT TOO LATE IN THE YEAR. HE WAS PLANNING TO LEAVE ON A SERIES OF OFFICIAL TRIPS TO JAPAN, KOREA AND THE GRC BETWEEN NOVEMBER 5 AND 10. IF THE COMMISSION MEETINGS COULD BEGIN, THEREFORE, IN LATE OCTOBER OR AROUND THE FIRST OF NOVEMBER, THIS WOULD BE MORE DESIRABLE. PRINCE TURKI ADDED THAT PRINCE SULTAN WOULD BE AVAILABLE AFTER HE HAD DEPARTED, BUT HE WAS RELUCTANT TO ASK SULTAN TO FILL HIS PLACE.

MR SOBER SAID HE WOULD INFORM WASHINGTON OF THE PRINCE'S VIEWS AND THAT WE WOULD DO OUR BEST TO BE RESPONSIVE.

3. PRINCE TURKI ALSO SAID HE MIGHT VISIT THE US IN LATE NOVEMBER--AT THE CONCLUSION OF HIS FAR EASTERN TRIPS--TO VISIT A SON WHO IS STUDYING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN. THIS WOULD BE HIS FIRST VISIT TO THE US. SOBER SUGGESTED THAT WHILE IN THE US THE PRINCE WOULD SURELY WISH TO CALL ON HIS FRIENDS IN WASHINGTON, AND TO SEE SOMETHING OF THE COUNTRY. HE HOPED THE PRINCE WOULD THEREFORE INFORM US WHEN HE KNEW MORE PRECISELY WHEN HE WOULD BE COMING TO THE US. THE PRINCE REPLIED HE WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO DO AS MR. SOBER HAD SUGGESTED AND WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH THE EMBASSY LATER.

4. COMMENT: WHEN PRINCE TURKI GOES TO THE US WE SHOULD DO OUR BEST TO MAKE SURE THAT HIS INITIAL VISIT IS WORTHWHILE AND REWARDING. APART FROM OFFICIAL DISCUSSIONS AND COURTESIES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN WASHINGTON, HIS PROGRAM SHOULD INCLUDE SOME MAJOR POINTS OF INTEREST THAT THE PRINCE'S FRIENDS WOULD HAVE SPOKEN TO HIM ABOUT. (IN PARTICULAR, HE SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE KENNEDY SPACE CENTER AT CAPE CANAVERAL.)

5. IF THE EMBASSY COULD BE PROVIDED WITH SOME ROUGH PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS SOME TIME IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS, WE COULD PASS THEM TO PRINCE TURKI FOR HIS REACTION. HIS FINAL SCHEDULE

MIGHT BE UNDERGOING REVISION UNTIL HE ARRIVES IN THE US,
BUT AN INITIAL PRESENTATION TO HIM WOULD
SEEM HOSPITABLE AND FORTHCOMING.

6. FOREGOING PREPARED PRIOR RECEIPT STATE TELS
199139 AND 199140. WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE FOR ASST SECRETARY
ELLSWORTH TO MODIFY HIS SCHEDULE AND COME TO SAUDI ARABIA
IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO RATHER THAN AFTER ROME NATO MEETING.
ON THE ASSUMPTION SUCH A CHANGE POSSIBLE, WE ARE PROPOSING BY
SEPTTEL REVISED LANGUAGE FOR LETTER TO PRINCE TURKI (STATE
199140).
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONAL OPINION, SURVEYS, MILITARY CAPABILITIES, COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974JIDDA05302
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740256-0280
From: JIDDA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740952/aaaabsji.tel
Line Count: 127
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 MAY 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <17 MAR 2003 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEPUTY MODA COMMENTS ON SECURITY COMMISSION MEETING, AND HIS TRAVEL TO U.S.
TAGS: MARR, SA, US, (TURKI BIN ABD AL-AZIZ)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005